development of coal blocks and end use projects of the allocattee companies are monitored and reviewed from time to time by the Ministry of Coal. The last such review meeting was held on 22nd and 23rd June, 2009.

**Illegal coal mining**

1646. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the concrete steps taken to stop illegal mining of coal, either by extraction of coal without obtaining a valid mining lease or by mining in areas outside the lease-hold areas of coal companies;

(b) whether the extant laws are adequate to deal with coal mafia or any amendments or enactment of fresh laws are on the anvil; and

(c) whether the successful Chinese model of co-operative mining is being considered to maximize the extraction of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The following steps are being taken by the Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiary companies to prevent illegal mining within their command areas:

(i) Rat holes created by illegal mining are being dozed off and filled up with stone and debris wherever possible.

(ii) Concrete walls have been erected on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas.

(iii) Regular raids/checks being conducted by security personnel and static security pickets including armed guards during the night hours are being deployed at pithead depots.

(iv) Surprise raids/checks being conducted jointly by security personnel and law and order authorities of the concerned State Government.

(v) Fencing is being constructed at the various illegal mining sites along with displaying of signboards mentioning "Dangerous and Prohibited Place".

(vi) Dumping of overburden is being done on the outcrop zones, which are not required to be mined.

(vii) Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action.

(viii) Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents.

(ix) Training of existing security personnel, refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security setup.

(x) The coal companies maintain close liaison with the State Authorities.

(xi) Committee/Task Force have been constituted at different levels (block level, sub-divisional level, district level, State level) at some subsidiaries of CIL to monitor different aspects of illegal mining.

(b) and (c) There are adequate provisions in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation)Act, 1957 and other Statutes to deal with the problem of illegal mining. Section 23 C of the said Act empowers the State Government to make rules for preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals etc. No information about Chinese model of co-operative mining is available, nor is it being considered by CIL.

**Position of coal reserves**

1647.SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the position of coal reserves as estimated during 2008-09, after keeping in view the extraction of coal during the last twenty years from 182 blocks worth 41,410 million tonnes allocated for extraction between 1987 and 2007;

(b) whether the objective of using coal as raw input for power generation and production of steel/sponge iron is being fully met from the indigenous resources; and

(c) how much coal has been imported, year-wise in 2006, 2007 and 2008?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The total coal resources as established by the explorations carried out by various agencies stood at 264.535 Billion Tonnes as on 01.04.2008 and 267.210 Billion Tonnes as on 01.04.2009. As per the present practice the estimated resources do not take into account the coal already extracted from the established resources.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The gap between the projected demand and domestic supply of coal is being met through imports. Details of year-wise coal imports as gathered from Coal Controller Organisation are as under:

*Coal imports in the Country (in Million Tonnes)*

| Year | Coking Coal | Non-Coking Coal | Total Coal |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2005-06 | 16.89 | 21.70 | 38.59 |
| 2006-07 | 17.88 | 25.20 | 43.08 |
| 2007-08 | 22.03 | 27.77 | 49.79 |
| 2008-09 (Provisional) | 24.00 | 35.00 | 59.00 |

**Plight of workers in coal mines**

†1648. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:
Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the pathetic plight of workers working in coal mines;

(b) whether Government is aware that these workers give a large part of their wages to coal mafia.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.